

Message Text

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ACTION PM-04

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SS-15 MMO-01 L-03 NSC-05 DODE-00

OMB-01 ACDA-07 SP-02 MC-02 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 H-02 /060 W

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FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9245

C O N F I D E N T I A L AMMAN 5184

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, XX

SUBJECT: NSSM 243-MAAG REQUIREMENTS STUDY

REF: (A) STATE 249431, (B) AMMAN 2309, (C) AMMAN 2676, (D)

USDAO AMMAN 191200Z MAY 76

1. AMBASSADOR PICKERING CURRENTLY IN AQABA AND WILL NOT RETURN PRIOR TO OCTOBER 7 DEADLINE. HOWEVER, HIS VIEWS AS RECORDED IN REFTELS AND DURING HIS RECENT WASHINGTON CONSULTATIONS ADEQUATELY DESCRIBE HIS POSITION. WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO REFTEL A, WE BELIEVE HE WOULD HAVE FOLLOWING REACTION.

2. WE VERY MUCH SUPPORT SUGGESTION MENTIONED IN PARA 4 C 3 REFTEL A TO SEEK TO HAVE CONGRESS AUTHORIZE DAO PARTICIPATION IN SECURITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM IN JORDAN. AS MENTIONED IN REFTELS B, C AND D, DUAL HATTING OF SOME DATT/MAP PERSONNEL IS THE MOST EFFICIENT AND EFFECTIVE MEANS OF PROMOTING TOTAL U.S. INTERESTS IN JORDAN, SINCE IT REDUCES PERSONNEL REQUIREMENTS AND ALSO ALLOWS MAXIMUM ACCESS TO AND INFLUENCE ON KEY JORDANIAN MILITARY FIGURES, WHO ARE VALUABLE SOURCES OF INTELLIGENCE AS WELL AS BEING DECISION MAKERS ON MILITARY ASSISTANCE MATTERS. WE ARE HOPEFUL THAT THIS SPECIAL SITUATION CAN BE POINTED OUT TO CONGRESS AND LEGISLATIVE RELIEF BE SOUGHT FOR JORDAN.

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3. WE WOULD FAVOR OPTION B FOR JORDAN, WITH THE PROVISIO
OF SEEKING LEGISLATIVE RELIEF FROM THE ABSOLUTE BAN ON
PARTICIPATION OF DEFENSE ATTACHES IN SECURITY ASSISTANCE
ACTIVITIES. TEN MAN SECURITY ASSISTANCE GROUP STAFFING MENTIONED
IN OPTION B IS THE SAME AS WE ARE CURRENTLY AUTHORIZED FOR MAP
UNDER OUR CURRENT COMBINED DATT/MAP SET-UP AND WE BELIEVE IT
ADEQUATELY COVERS OUR NEEDS. (THE ADDITIONAL MILITARY PERSONNEL
REQUIRED TO IMPLEMENT THE US-GOJ HAWK/VULCAN AIR DEFENSE EFFORT
WILL BE REIMBURSED SERVICES UNDER FMS CASES AND WE BELIEVE
CAN BE FULLY JUSTIFIED TO CONGRESS.)

4. GOJ WOULD BE MOST RELUCTANT TO FUND SIGNIFICANT COSTS
FOR CURRENT US SECURITY ASISTANCE PERSONNEL, ALTHOUGH THEY
WOULD OBVIOUSLY NOT WISH TO DO WITHOUT SUCH ESSENTIAL US
MILITARY PERSONNEL. JORDAN IS A POOR COUNTRY AND GOJ AND
JORDAN ARMED FORCES ARE BOTH CURRENTLY EXPERIENCING ONE OF THEIR
MOST SEVERE BUDGET CRISES. THERE WOULD PROBABLY ALSO BE
CONSIDERABLE RESISTANCE AMONG MANY ELEMENTS IN JAF TO PAYING
THE RELATIVELY HIGH PER MAN COST REQUIRED TO SUPPORT US MILITARY
ASSISTANCE PERSONNEL HERE. WE WOULD THEREFORE URGE AS
SYMPATHETIC TREATMENT TO JORDAN AS POSSIBLE ON THIS ISSUE.
PICKERING

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